

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/602,306

Examiner

Adam L. Basehoar

Applicant(s)

PRATLEY ET AL.

Art Unit

2178

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the RCE filed 05/02/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4,6-14,16-22 and 24-31.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE AND EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. This action is responsive to communications: The RCE filed 05/02/06.
2. Claims 5, 15, and 23 have been cancelled as necessitated by Amendment.
3. The Specification has been Amended by the Examiner, which is shown below in the Examiner's Amendment Section.
4. Claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-22, and 24-31 are pending in this case. Claims 1, 13, and 20 are independent claims.
5. All previous rejections of the claims have withdrawn.
6. Claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-22, and 24-31 are allowed as necessitated by Amendment and are discussed below in the Reasons for Allowance section.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

7. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The Application has been amended as follows:

Regarding the Abstract:

Due to the undue length of the abstract, please delete the remaining portion of abstract after the sentence ending in "displaying the suggestion directly in the document." on line 17.

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Regarding the Specification:

Please add after “1999,”, on Page 8, Line 28 of the Specification, “now U.S. Patent 6,789,231,”.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

8. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding amended independent claim 1, none of the references, either singularly or in combination, teach or suggest to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention the amended features in view of the previously existing claim limitations. The examiner notes that while stochastic spell checking methods are not in general considered a novel concept (See Examiner Referenced Prior Art Patents), the combination of the previous claimed features with the amended features of the method steps of independent claim 1 are considered novel, and unobvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made in view of the prior art of record.

In regards to independent claims 13 and 20, the examiner notes that said claims are substantially similar to independent claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:


US-2005/0210383	09-2005	Cucerzan et al.
US-2005/0091054	04-2005	Thrasher et al.
US-2003/0037077	02-2003	Brill et al.
US-6,618,697	09-2003	Kantrowitz et al.
US-5,794,189	08-1998	Gould, Joel
US-5,712,957	01-1998	Waibel et al.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adam L. Basehoar whose telephone number is (571)-272-4121. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 7:00am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steve Hong can be reached on (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



STEPHEN HONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

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